



PTO/SB/01A (10-00)  
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**DECLARATION (37 CFR 1.63) FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN APPLICATION USING AN  
APPLICATION DATA SHEET (37 CFR 1.76)**

As the below named inventor(s), I/we declare that:

This declaration is directed to:

- ☐ The attached application, or  
☒ Application No. 09/987,976, filed on November 6, 2001,  
☐ as amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable);

I/we believe that I/we am/are the original and first inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought;

I/we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified application, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above;

I/we acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me/us to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the National or PCT International filing date of the continuation-in-part application, if applicable; and

All statements made herein of my/own knowledge are true, all statements made herein on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

**FULL NAME OF INVENTOR(S)**

Inventor one: J. Donald Hill

Signature: J. Donald Hill Citizen of: CANADA  
United States

Inventor two: Geoff Briggs

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen of: United States

Inventor three: Michael Sims

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen of: United States

Inventor four: Cameron Dale Hinman

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen of: United States

☐ Additional inventors are being named on \_\_\_\_\_ additional form(s) attached hereto.

**Burden Hour Statement** This collection of information is required by 35 U.S.C. 115 and 37 CFR 1.63. The information is used by the public to file (and the PTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This form is estimated to take 1 minute to complete. This time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

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PTO/SB/81 (02-01)

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# POWER OF ATTORNEY OR AUTHORIZATION OF AGENT

Application Number	09/987,976
Filing Date	November 6, 2001
First Named Inventor	J. Donald Hill et al.
Title	Automatic Suture Fixation...
Group Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	To be assigned
Attorney Docket Number	018880.0120

I hereby appoint:

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OR  
☐ Practitioner(s) named below:

Name	Registration Number



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as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s) to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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State

Zip

Country

Telephone

Fax

I am the:

☒ Applicant/Inventor.☐ Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.  
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/06).

## SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record

Name

J. Donald Hill

Signature

Date

1/25/02

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

☒ Total of 4 forms are submitted.

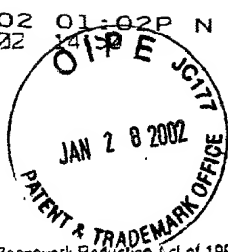
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**FULL NAME OF INVENTOR(S)**

Inventor one: J. Donald Hill

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen of: United States

Inventor two: Geoff Briggs

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen of: United States

Inventor three: Michael Sims

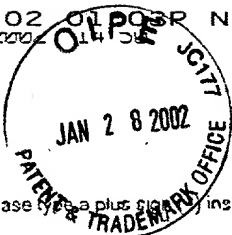
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen of: United States

Inventor four: Cameron Dale Hinman

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen of: United States

☐ Additional inventors are being named on \_\_\_\_\_ additional form(s) attached hereto.

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PTO/SB/61 (02-01)

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First Named Inventor	J. Donald Hill et al.
Title	Automatic Suture Fixation...
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Examiner Name	To be assigned
Attorney Docket Number	018880.0120

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Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB196).**SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record**

Name

Michael Sims

Signature

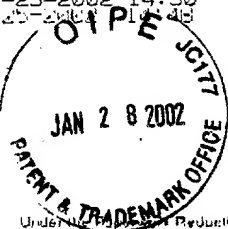
Date

January 25, 2002

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#### FULL NAME OF INVENTOR(S)

Inventor one: J. Donald Hill

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen of: United States

Inventor two: Graff Briggs

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen of: United States

Inventor three: Michael Sims

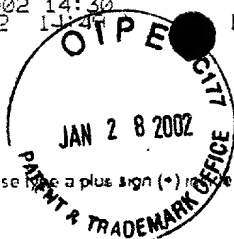
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen of: United States

Inventor four: Cameron Dale Hinman

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen of: United States

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PTO/SB/61 (02-01)

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Filing Date	November 6, 2001
First Named Inventor	J. Donald Hill et al.
Title	Automatic Suture Fixation...
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Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).**SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record**

Name

Geoff Hines

Signature

Date

1/25/02

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## FULL NAME OF INVENTOR(S)

Inventor one: J. Donald Hill

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen of: United States

Inventor two: Geoff Briggs

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen of: United States

Inventor three: Michael Sims

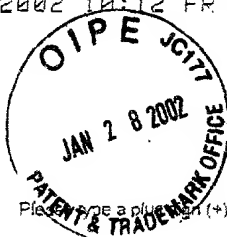
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen of: United States

Inventor four: Cameron Dale Hinman

Signature: [Signature] Citizen of: United States

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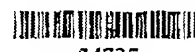
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Filing Date	November 6, 2001
First Named Inventor	J. Donald Hill et al.
Title	Automatic Suture Fixation...
Group Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	To be assigned
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☐ Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.

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## SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record

Name

Cameron Dale Hinman

Signature

Date

01/28/02

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